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Current Events

[Edited by Clarence W. Gleason, Roxbury Latin School, Boston, Mass., for territory covered by the Association of New England and the Atlantic States; Daniel W. Lothman, East High School, Cleveland, Ohio, for the Middle States, west to the Mississippi River; George Howe, the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, North Carolina, for the Southeastern States; Walter Miller, the University of Missouri, Columbia, Mo., for the Southwestern States; and Franklin H. Potter, the University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa, for the territory of the Association west of the Mississippi, exclusive of Louisiana and Texas. News from the Pacific Coast may be sent to Miss Julianne A. Roller, Franklin High School, Portland, Ore., and to Mr. Walter A. Edwards, Los Angeles High School, Los Angeles, Cal. This department will present everything that is properly news—occurrences from month to month, meetings, changes in faculties, performances of various kinds, etc. All news items should be sent to the associate editors named above.]

California

Riverside.—On April 26, the Circulus Classicus of the Girls' High School, Riverside, California, gave a Roman banquet, following out as closely as possible the Roman customs. The banquet took place at the home of one of the members, beginning at five o'clock in the afternoon. The guests, sixty-eight in number, wore white togas and wreaths, and each laid aside her own name for the evening, and bore the name of some famous Roman or deity. Cushions on the floor were used in place of couches, and the long tables were placed at a convenient height from the floor. Place cards in the form of miniature scrolls, with quaint seals held the Latin names of the guests, while each one was provided with the simple menu, tied with royal purple ribbon.

As the guests took their places, "servae," members of the Freshman Latin classes, presented finger bowls. Then the banquet proceeded from "eggs to apples." Spoons were the only articles of silverware provided. Between courses the diners were entertained by a solo dance and the recitation of the "Roman of Old." *De more* a sacrifice was duly made to the gods. Salt and meal were burned while a priestess chanted the Latin words of the ceremony. The banquet, conducted along classical lines, was a huge success, and was greatly enjoyed by the girls. The success of the event was due to the work of Miss Eleanor Nelson, instructor in Latin, who supervised the committees of girls in planning the arrangements.

Los Angeles.—The regular spring meeting of the Classical Association of the Pacific States, Southern Section, took the form this year of a luncheon with program following. The place was the Canterbury Inn, Los Angeles, and the date was Saturday, April 22. About fifty members of the Association partook of the excellent repast provided by the Inn and listened to the very enjoyable program given under the direction of Professor W. D. Ward of Occidental College, President of the Association. The printed announcements gave the title of each paper in Latin, but the speakers had refused to permit their personalities to be thus disguised.

Dr. A. P. McKinlay of the University of California, Southern Branch, advocated the use of the *Iliad* and *Ovid* for beginners in Greek and Latin, and thus precipitated a lively discussion which demonstrated the desire of many teachers for something easier and more interesting than *Caesar* for the second year. Mr. Sidney Smith recited the prologue to the *Rudens*, from the performance recently given at the Hollywood High School. Miss Anne E. Edwards of the Hollywood High School told most entertainingly of her last summer's trip to Italy and of the special favors shown to her party by Professor Boni himself. Dr. E. C. Norton of Pomona College in his own inimitable way gave the company *Fact and Fancy* in the teaching of the Classics.

It is understood that the several members of the Association are next year to experiment with various authors to follow the beginner's book, and at the end of the year to compare notes on their experiences.

The following officers were elected for the coming year:

President, Miss Mary A. Tucker, Hollywood High School.

Vice President, Miss Florence Kimball, Long Beach.

Secretary, Miss Anne E. Edwards, Hollywood High School.

Executive Committee, Dr. A. P. McKinlay, University of California, Southern Branch, and Professor Welcome A. Tilroe, University of Southern California.

Associate Editor CLASSICAL JOURNAL, Dr. Walter A. Edwards, Los Angeles High School.

San Diego.—Mr. Lawrence W. Carr, Head of the Language Department, sends us the following interesting statement of a proposed radical change in the Latin program in the San Diego High School: "We all know the difficulties under which the teaching of Latin is laboring these days and the need of some revision in the content and method of teaching, especially of the first two years. For some time we have been giving one and a half years to the completion of a first year book with some easy reading. Now we feel that a further change would make the course of much more practical value to the great majority of our students and with this in view have worked out the following plan:

- IB Elementary Latin (Smith)
Ora Maritima (Sonnenschein) 23 pages
- IA Elementary Latin (Smith)
Fabulae Faciles (Ritchie) 20 pages
- 2B Elementary Latin (Smith) finish
Fabulae Faciles (Finish) 33 pages
- 2A Latin Plays (Schlicher) 2 plays, 50 pages
Latin Reader (Nutting) 100 pages
- 3B Caesar 3 books
- 3A Cicero 3 Orations, or 2 Orations and the *Phormio* (Simplified)
4th year. *Ovid*, the equivalent of one book of Virgil's *Aeneid*.
Aeneid, Books I, II, III, IV and VI.

The radical feature is, of course, the delaying of *Caesar* until the third year; but we feel not only that the students who take more than two years of Latin will read it with much more pleasure and profit and with the greater facility resulting from an extended course of easy reading, but that for those

who do not take more than the two years the value of a much greater amount of easier reading far outweighs that of the smaller amount of Caesar now read with so much difficulty.

Colorado

Colorado Springs.—The Colorado College Classical Club presented two Latin plays on May 20th, 1922. "Pyramus et Thisbe" was given in the Latin version of Richard Caemmerer of North Denver High School, and the "Captives" of Plautus was given in the English translation of Dr. E. G. Wilkins of the University of Colorado. These plays were presented under the direction of Professor C. C. Mierow and Miss Dorothy Printup of the Department of Classics, assisted by Miss Lillian Sullivan, president of the club.

Georgia

Atlanta.—The second annual meeting of the Southern Section of The Classical Association of the Middle West and South was held in Atlanta April 27-29. Representatives were in attendance from every state in the territory and from one or two states outside the territory. The sessions of the first two days were devoted to the reading of papers; that of the third day to an informal discussion of high school problems and to reports on the investigation into the teaching of Latin by The American Classical League. An address was delivered by Dean Andrew F. West and a report made by Dr. Mason Gray. From every point of view the meeting was a great success.

The program in detail was printed in the May number of the CLASSICAL JOURNAL.

On Friday the Association was the guest of Emory University where the day's sessions were held and where the members were entertained at luncheon by the institution. On Saturday Oglethorpe University was host at luncheon. On both occasions everything possible was done in generous and hospitable fashion for the comfort and entertainment of the members.

The officers elected for the coming year are Josiah B. Game of the State College for Women, Florida, President; D. M. Key of Millsaps College, Mississippi, Vice-President; E. L. Green of the University of South Carolina, Secretary-Treasurer.

Illinois

Chicago.—At the thirty-fourth Educational Conference of the University of Chicago with Academies and High Schools on May 12th, the Classical Section presented the following program: "Latin as a High School Subject," by John C. Hanna, State Supervisor of High Schools; Report of the Progress of the work by the Chicago Latin teachers on the Derivative Lexicons, by A. W. Smalley, Hyde Park High School; Round Table Discussion: "My Most Perplexing Problems," led by Professor F. J. Miller.

In the Prize Scholarship Examinations set by the University in twelve different departments in connection with this Conference, the prize in Latin was won by Louis Scala, of the La Salle-Peru Township High School. Honorable mention was awarded to the following students: John K. Barton, Hyde Park High School; Carl Fuhrmann, Nicolas Senn High School; Margaret J. Novak, (school not reported); Lucy E. Lamon, Faulkner School;

Willard Munzer, Lake View High School; James F. Kochler, Nicolas Senn High School.

The examination was taken by thirty-six students.

The University Graduate Classical Club meets every fortnight and has just completed an unusually successful year. Its last meeting was held on May 23, at which Miss Lillian M. Wilson presented some "Reconstructions of the Roman Toga," illustrated with living models.

On May 19, the undergraduate Classical Club gave a very realistic and successful Roman Banquet as its final meeting of the year. Roman food was eaten and Roman costumes worn.

The Chicago Classical Club meets once each quarter at a banquet in the Hotel La Salle. It is a large and flourishing club and unites all the classical interests of Chicago and its vicinity. Its success this year has been largely due to its president, Mr. Pason S. Wild, and its secretary, Miss Mary J. Moynihan. At its final meeting on May 13, Mr. Lorado Taft, the well known sculptor, spoke on the subject of "Our Greek Inheritance, Especially in the Art of Sculpture."

Indiana

Indianapolis.—The Latin Club of Arsenal Technical Schools was organized at a meeting held on February 14th. Eight officers with two consuls as heads were elected. Latin valentines were exchanged and "Gaudeamus igitur" was sung. A definite course of study has been pursued at the monthly meeting, each centering about some famous Roman character. On the Ides of March, Julius Caesar was studied; interesting papers regarding his life were read, as well as an original ode, and a translation describing our English forefathers, by student members of the club.

April 21, the *Parilia*, was given over to Cicero. Readings from "De Senectute" and "Archias" were delivered, and special music was furnished by the Girls' Ukulele Club, the songs being in Latin.

The concluding meeting will be an out door affair held on Technical's new athletic field. The numbers on the program will be arranged with special reference to the poet, Virgil, but most of the meeting will be informal, in order that the hundred members may become better acquainted with each other.

Kentucky

Lexington.—The third annual meeting of the Kentucky Classical Association met with the schools and colleges of Lexington on April 28, 29. On the program was a "Welcome Address," by Dr. T. B. McCartney, of Transylvania College; "The Latin Tournament," by Miss Pauline Peeples, of Kentucky Wesleyan College; "How Medals are Won," by Miss Olive B. Catlin, of Louisville Girls High School; Report of the Classical Association of the Middle West and South, by Professor B. T. Spencer, of Kentucky Wesleyan College; Résumé of the Plans and Purposes of the Classical Investigation, by Dr. Mason D. Gray; "A Word for the Classics," by the Hon. M. A. Cassidy, Superintendent of the Lexington Schools; "Latin from the Dean's Point of View," by Dr. Paul B. Boyd, Dean of the College of Arts and Science, the University of Kentucky.

This program was varied by a classical play, "The Return of Spring" (based on the Demeter-Persephone myth), by Elmer Levinger, staged by the Latin Department of the Lexington Senior High School, under the direction of Miss Mary Wood Brown; by an illustrated lecture on the Parthenon by Dr. H. C. Tolman, of Vanderbilt University; by a series of Round Table Discussions, and by a motion picture show, "Quo Vadis," one of the George Kleine Company reels.

Maine

Brunswick.—The Classical Club of Bowdoin College presented the *Mos-tellaria* of Plautus, in the translation of Dean Paul Nixon, on April 22. Professor Thomas Means directed the play.

Ohio

Bryan.—On May fifteenth, the Latin classes of Bryan High School entertained the pupils of the eighth grade and the teachers of the Junior High School, and of the Senior High School, with a Latin party. The gymnasium was decorated in the High School colors, and something like thirty posters were on exhibition. Most of these posters were based upon suggestions given in Miss Sabin's book, "The Relation of Latin to Practical Life." Furthermore, numerous Latin quotations and proverbs were hung upon the wall, as well as "Salve," "Nihil Intret Mali" and "Cave Canem." The last motto was placed above a very fierce looking china bull dog.

As each person entered the gymnasium, he was presented with a Latin name, and a small booklet with pencil attached. The names were used later in a contest, the object of which was to secure as many Latin names as possible in the book, in a given length of time. A box of candy was given to the winner. A game similar to "Fruit Basket Upset" was played by using the names. This provided a great deal of merriment.

The following program was then rendered: Vocal Duet, "Lene Fla"; "The Relation of Latin to Practical Life"; "Interesting Places in Rome"; "Answers to Some Common Objections to the Study of Latin." Then was given the Latin play "Ludus Romanus." The whole performance was a most enjoyable affair.

Granville.—At the meeting of the Classical Association at Madison, Wisconsin, initial plans were formed for an Ohio state conference of Latin teachers. The personnel of the committee as far as completed is: Professor Louis E. Lord, of Oberlin College, Chairman; Professor Victor D. Hill, of Ohio University; Professor Rollin H. Tanner, of Denison University; Professor W. T. Semple, of the University of Cincinnati; Professor W. L. Carr, of Oberlin College; Miss Alice D. Hare, of East High School, Columbus; Miss Blair, of Shaker Heights. The committee when completed will represent colleges and secondary schools of all parts of the state. The presence of the President and Secretary-Treasurer of the Classical Association of the Middle West and South on this committee is a good omen. The conference will meet next year on November 10-11 at Denison University, Granville.

AMERICAN SCHOOL OF CLASSICAL STUDIES AT ATHENS

Mr. Kenneth Scott sends us the following statement: "In the *CLASSICAL JOURNAL* of January 1922 appeared the following paragraph in the article entitled "Archaeology in 1920-21" by Prof. George H. Chase of Harvard University: 'From Pagasae in Thessaly the discovery of a Mycenaean palace in a good state of preservation is reported, but I have seen no more than the mere statement of fact.'

This account in the *CLASSICAL JOURNAL* led to my visiting the city of Volo which is a few kilometres by land from the site of Pagasae just across the harbor. According to the account of Mr. Arvanitopoulos, Ephor of the district, the palace referred to is not situated at Pagasae but within Volo itself and occupies part of a low hill which rises from the plain and is known as the "Kastro" or Old Town conspicuous by the Turkish minaret which is to be seen above the squat houses of the quarter. This hill Mr. Arvanitopoulos considers as the ancient Iolkos, celebrated in legend as the home of Jason, and during the past year a small excavation was made on one of the sides where the slope is abrupt and crowned by a wall of late date and several houses, whose presence prevented his pushing the excavation to any satisfactory point. Together with the Ephor I examined the spot and there is no doubt but that the whole hill was the site of a prehistoric settlement of some extent.

At the point excavated the remarkably clear stratification points first to a long period of occupation during Neolithic times as is indicated by the character of the potsherds and a Neolithic grave. Immediately above this stratum is an extensive flooring of a kind of plaster about two centimetres thick, which greatly resembles the floor of the megaron at Mycenae, and whose rather wide foundation walls, made of small, flat, thin stones without binding, are set at some distance down in the Neolithic level. In one corner of the flooring Mr. Arvanitopoulos discovered bits of stucco with traces of paint, and he believes that upon excavation of the area wall paintings such as those at Knossos may be found. Resting on the floor is a layer of charred wood which shows that the building was destroyed by fire, and a considerable stratum of soil above, apparently without potsherds, would lead one to believe that the site was practically deserted after the great fire for several centuries. After the removal of one or two houses, which are above further excavation will be possible and should throw much light on the civilization of prehistoric Thessaly which already has so rich a mythology.

As a result of the competitive examinations held March 21-23, one of the Fellowships in the American School of Classical Studies at Athens has been awarded by the managing committee to Mr. Philip Haldane Davis, A.B., Princeton, 1921, a student in the graduate school of Princeton during the past year. The other Fellowship was assigned, without re-examination, to its present holder, Dr. Frank Plotinus Johnson, A.B., University of Missouri, 1914; A.M., *ibid.* 1915; Ph.D., Johns Hopkins University, 1921. Dr. Johnson, whose doctoral dissertation was on Lysippus, is preparing for publication a catalogue of the sculptures in the museum at Old Corinth, where the School has been carrying on excavations for many years.